the Railways propose to do. I request the Minister to please reply.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, we have already answered that we are proposing, not only proposing but we are taking measures which will enable the Railways to meet what is projected as almost doubling of demand by the year 2000. As the hon. Member must be knowng—he is well informed—a corporate plan has been drawn up. We will proceed according to that corporate plan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Development of Paradip Port with the help of M/s. Hyundai Corporation

*82. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's negotiations with M/s. Hyundai Corporation of South Korea for the development of Paradip Port have reached almost the final stage;

(b) what was the recommendation of working group constituted by Government for the development of Paradip Port and how far the same has been implemented;

(c) what is the estimated cost of the project and whether any terms and conditions have been imposed by the Corporation before its execution; and

(d) by when the detailed project report is expected to be received by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d) No negotiations are underway with M/s. Hyundai Corporation of South Korea for development of Paradip Port.

Working Group appointed by this Ministry had recommended in February, 1986 that the proposal of M/s. Hyundai Corporation is technically feasible and financially viable. The development of the Port facilities was estimated at Rs. 228 crores ((1985 prices).

The Hyundai Corporation has been entrusted with the preparation of the Detailed Project Report which is expected by the end of April, 1989.

Damage to roads in Punjab by Floods

*84. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that due to recent floods in Punjab, the roads in that State, with a total length of 8000 Kms. are still not traffic-worthy;

(b) whether Government propose to send a Central Team to Punjab to assess the damage to roads;

(c) what assistance has been provided to Punjab, so far, to repair the roads; and

(d) by when all the roads in Punjab would be made traffic-worthy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d) Out of 882 Kms of National Highways in the State, for the maintenance of which Central Government is responsible, only 3 Kms are still closed to traffic which will be restored by the end of November, 1988. State Government have reported that 894 Kms of State roads are closed to traffic and are expected to be made traffic-worthy by January, 1989.

The State Government has been requested to give priority for immediate restoration of the damaged State roads and an expenditure upto Rs. 10 crores has also been authorised for this purpose. For urgent repair to National Highways as sum of Rs. 35.00 lakhs has been released in addition to the provision of Rs 287.88 lakhs for maintenance.

The Central Team for assessing the requirements of Central assistance for flood

relief has visited Punjab from 26th to 31st October, 1988. The ceilings of expenditure for flood relief measures including road sector will be finalised on the basis of the report of the Central Team in accordance with the established procedure.

Sethu Canal Project

*85. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to implement the Sethu Canal Project; and

(b) what is the total estimated cost of the Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) According to a preliminary estimate made in 1983, the project cost was Rs. 282 crores.

Funds provided to Andhra Pradesh under the Rural Functional Literacy Project

*87. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHA KRISHNA:
SHRI L. NARSINGH NAIK:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of funds provided to Andhra Pradesh under the Rural Functional Literacy Project;

(b) what is the number of projects so far set up under the said Scheme;

(c) what is the number of learners enrolled under Rural Functional Literacy Project 1988; and

(d) what is the percentage of women and those belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) An amount of Rs. 35 lakhs has been released to Andhra Pradesh in the current financial year as the first instalment. Moreover, sanction has also been issued to permit the State Government to carry forward the unspent balance of Rs. 14.33,389 remaining with them out of the grant released during 1987-88.

(b) 26 projects of 300 centres each have been set up under the said scheme in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) 232.694 learners were enrolled under Rural Functional Literacy Projects during the first quarter of 1988.

(d) The percentages of women and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes enrolled during the period was 45.8, 30.6 and 15.6 respectively.

Growing trade in Children

*89. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether trading in children is growing in the country; if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(b) whether Government would encourage sponsorship of voluntary organisations on the model of London-based Anti-slavery society?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) There is no information available to the effect that trading in children is growing in the country

(b) As a policy, voluntary efforts in the field of child welfare are encouraged by the Government.